

## Message Text

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ORIGIN SNM-02

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EUR-10 NEA-06 NSCE-00 NSC-07 IO-03

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NEA/INS:JMGIBNEY

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NSC:HHORAN (SUBSTANCE)

----- 041798

P R 262134Z JUN 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY

USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY KABUL

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 137751

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR

SUBJECT: NARCOTICS FOR WORLD MEDICAL USE AND TURKISH  
OPIUM BAN

REF: A) ANKARA 5013 (NOTAL); B) STATE 135135

1. ADDRESSEE POSTS SHOULD TREAT SUBJECT OF OPIUM SUPPLY AS  
ESPECIALLY SENSITIVE BECAUSE OF ITS POTENTIAL EFFECT ON US-  
TURKISH DISCUSSIONS OF TURKISH OPIUM BAN. GOT IS UNDER  
CONSIDERABLE DOMESTIC PRESSURE TO RESUME PRODUCTION, BUT IS  
HESITATING IN FACE OF US WARNINGS THAT SUCH AN ACT COULD  
PRECIPITATE A SERIOUS DETERIORATION OF US-TURKISH RELATIONS.

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MAJOR SOURCE OF IRRITATION ON TURKISH SIDE IS AWARENESS OF

WORLD MEDICINAL OPIATE SHORTAGE AND RESULTANT US EFFORTS PERSUADE INDIA TO INCREASE PRODUCTION. TURKS SIMPLY CANNOT ACCEPT PROPOSITION THAT THEY LESS ABLE THAN INDIANS TO CONTROL SMUGGLING. TURKISH SITUATION ENTERING VERY DELICATE STAGE AS POINT APPROACHES BEYOND WHICH GOT WILL NOT HAVE TIME TO AUTHORIZE A FALL PLANTING. IT IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT BOTH TO OUR ANTI-NARCOTICS-EFFORT AND OUR RELATIONS WITH TURKEY THAT GOT DECISION BE DELAYED BEYOND THAT POINT. CONSEQUENTLY WE SHOULD SEEK TO AVOID TAKING ANY ACTION WHICH WOULD MAKE IT MORE DIFFICULT FOR TURKISH GOVERNMENT TO MAINTAIN OPIUM BAN AND TO RESIST PRESSURES BY NATIONALISTS AND FROM ILLICIT TRAFFICKERS TO LIFT BAN, ESPECIALLY NOW THAT ARGUMENTS FOR MAINTAINING BAN AND WARNINGS OF DANGERS OF LIFTING IT SEEM TO BE MAKING IMPRESSION ON TURKISH LEADERS.

2. NEVERTHELESS, IT IS US POLICY IN OUR NATIONAL INTEREST TO SUPPORT INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS TO ASSURE ADEQUATE SUPPLIES OF OPIATES FOR MEDICAL REQUIREMENTS UNDER EFFECTIVE CONTROLS AND WITHOUT INCREASING RISK OF DIVERSION TO ILLICIT MARKET. INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM OF RESEARCH DESIGNED TO ASSIST IN OBTAINING THIS OBJECTIVE WAS AGREED UPON BY CND AT ITS THIRD SPECIAL SESSION LAST FEBRUARY, AND US AND OTHER MEMBER COUNTRIES PUBLICLY SUPPORTED IT. APPROACHES TO GOI AND TO UN SECRETARIAT'S NARCOTICS DIVISION REQUESTED IN REF B ARE INTENDED TO CONTINUE ONGOING DISCUSSIONS IN SUPPORT OF THAT INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH PROGRAM.

3. IN VIEW GROWING GAP BETWEEN PROJECTED SUPPLIES AND INCREASING DEMAND FOR OPIATES FOR MEDICAL USE, WORLD ATTENTION IS INEVITABLY CONCENTRATED UPON INCREASING AVAILABILITIES FROM OPIUM POPPY AND STRAW PRODUCTION IN INDIA, ESPECIALLY TO MEET SHORT-TERM REQUIREMENTS. WE WERE SUCCESSFUL IN CND IN FOCUSING RESULTING EFFORT ESSENTIALLY ON PROGRAMS OF RESEARCH BUT THESE RESEARCH PROGRAMS SHOULD BE PURSUED ENERGETICALLY. MOREOVER, WE CANNOT DODGE THE FACT THAT INDIA HAS BECOME SOLE EXPORTER FOR LEGAL MARKET AND IS CONSIDERED BY TREATY ORGAN AS WELL AS BY OTHER GOVERNMENTS GENERALLY TO BE RESPONSIBLE PRODUCER WITH EXPERIENCE IN APPLYING EFFECTIVE CONTROLS.

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OUR OBJECTIVE IS TO AVOID PROLIFERATION OF PRODUCING AREAS AND ENTRANCE INTO THE MARKET OF NEW, UNTRIED PRODUCERS AS WELL AS RETURN TO PRODUCTION BY TURKEY WHICH WAS NOT ABLE TO PREVENT SUBSTANTIAL DIVERSION FROM ITS PRODUCTION.

4. TO SUM UP, WE HAVE TWO IMPORTANT OBJECTIVES, TO ASSURE ADEQUATE SUPPLIES FOR MEDICAL USE AND TO MAINTAIN AN EFFECTIVE INTERNATIONAL CONTROL SYSTEM. THESE TWO OBJECTIVES

TIVES ARE NOT INCONSISTENT WITH EACH OTHER. THEY ARE  
RATIONALLY CONCEIVED AND THEY MUST BE PURSUED TOGETHER.

5. NOTWITHSTANDING THE FOREGOING, WE WISH TO AVOID OR AT  
LEAST TO MINIMIZE THE POSSIBILITY OF AN EMOTIONAL REACTION  
IN TURKEY TO ACTIVE EXPLORATION OF INCREASED OPIATE  
AVAILABILITIES IN INDIA AT THIS TIME WHILE TURKEY IS  
ACTIVELY REVIEWING ITS POSITION ON OPIUM BAN. TO IS-  
END, GENEVA IS REQUESTED TO DOWNPLAY OUR ROLE IN DIS-  
CUSSIONS WITH THE UN LABORATORY, THAT ASSIST OF THE  
RESEARCH PROGRAM INVOLVING TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO INDIA  
AND TO LEAVE THE INITIATIVE FOR SUCH ASSISTANCE TO THE UN  
LAB, OTHER GOVERNMENTS, AND OTHER EXPERTS. QUENTIN JONES,  
US MEMBER OF UN PANEL OF EXPERTS TO MEET JULY 10-12, WILL  
RECEIVE SIMILAR GUIDANCE. IN ADDITION, NEW DELHI IS  
REQUESTED TO CONTINUE ON AN INFORMAL, LOW-KEY BASIS ITS  
DISCUSSIONS WHICH IT HAS BEEN CARRYING ON WITH INDIAN  
OFFICIALS DURING THE PAST SEVERAL MONTHS CONCERNING CUR-  
RENT AND PROJECTED AVAILABILITIES BEARING IN MIND THE  
POTENTIAL IMPACT IN TURKEY OF THESE DISCUSSIONS. OUR  
IMMEDIATE INTEREST IS PRINCIPALLY IN OBTAINING MORE EXACT  
INFORMATION ABOUT PLANNED ACREAGE, THE POSSIBILITY OF  
HIGHER YIELDS PER ACRE, AND MAXIMUM FEASIBLE UTILIZATION  
OF INCISED POPPY STRAW. WE DO NOT DESIRE TO GO BEYOND  
BUT MERELY TO CONFIRM THE UNDERSTANDINGS ARRIVED AT IN  
OPEN SESSION AT 1974 CND MEETING.

6. WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO NEW DELHI 8229, WE ARE  
INTERESTED IN KNOWING WHAT CAPACITY OF POPPY STRAW PLANT  
WILL BE. WE HOPE THAT INCISED STRAW NOT USED BY PRO-  
JECTED PLANT WILL BE EXPORTED FOR EXTRACTION OF MORPHINE  
ABROAD. FURTHER WITH RESPECT TO REQUEST OF INDIANS FOR  
OFFICIAL US ESTIMATE OF IMPORT REQUIREMENTS FOR 1975  
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BY END OF JUNE 1974, WE SHALL SEEK TO GET AN ESTIMATE AS  
SOON AS POSSIBLE FOR YOU TO CONVEY TO INDIANS TO ASSIST  
THEM IN PLANNING 1975 PRODUCTION. SISCO

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## Message Attributes

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